

10/583859
AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JUN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
FUJIWARA et al.)
Application Number: To Be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: BLASTING METHOD)
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. SANK.0009)

**Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants have amended the claims in order to eliminate the multiple dependencies in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: